



15c



NO. 220  
MAR.

# BATMAN



I TRAPPED YOU,  
**BATMAN!**  
THIS BOOTH WILL  
SELF-DESTRUCT IN  
ONE SECOND!



**THIS MURDER HAS BEEN PRE-RECORDED!**

STORY BY  
FRANK  
ROBBINS

# BATMAN

ART BY  
IRV NOVICK  
&  
DICK  
GIORDANO

A MYSTERIOUS  
MIDNIGHT  
RENDEZVOUS  
IS KEPT BY  
BATMAN...

TELEPHONE

OUT OF  
ORDER!

U.S.  
MAIL

...AND AS THE TELEPHONE-BOOTH DOOR IS  
CLOSED...

ZZZ... THIS IS  
A PRE-RECORDING!  
I-- ZACH MOVA--  
KILLED TOM  
SLOANE!

BUT YOU'LL  
NEVER USE THIS  
VOLUNTARY  
CONFESSION  
AGAINST  
ME, BECAUSE...

OUT OF  
ORDER!

...IN ONE SECOND  
THIS TAPE WILL  
SELF-DESTRUCT...

...AND SO  
WILL YOU!



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A LETHAL SENTENCE OF DEATH  
THAT EVEN THE LIGHTNING-LIKE  
REFLEXES OF BATMAN CANNOT  
COPE WITH.



**BRIAN!**

A THUNDEROUS FINALE TO THE ALMOST-CARNED LIFE  
OF THE CAPED CRIME-CRUSADER OF GOTHAM CITY! A CONFESSION  
BY HIS OWN MURDERER... AND HIS OWN GALLANT LIFE... SNUFFED OUT  
IN ONE BRIEF, TRAGIC INSTANT! NOT A WHRED OF EVIDENCE LEFT... ONLY  
GRIM FRAGMENTS TO INFORM THE SHOCKED POPULACE THAT THEIR GREAT  
DEFENDER IS... DEAD! WHO WILL AVENGE HIM? WHO CAN?

**THIS MURDER HAS BEEN...  
PRE-RECORDED!!**





YOU RECALL THE "K.A." CASE I RECENTLY WROTE ABOUT... THE SISTER OF THE YOUNG FILE CLERK IN THE CITY CONTRACT BIDS DEPARTMENT?



SANDRA SLOANE— SHE CAME TO US FOR FINANCIAL AID AFTER HER BROTHER TOM—



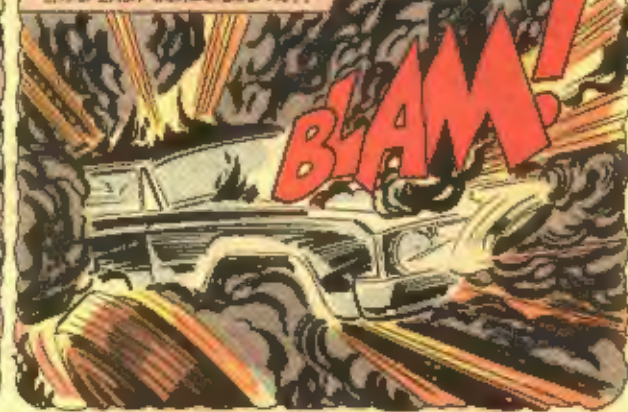
--DID WHAT EVERY OTHER COMMUTER DOES BEFORE HE DRIVES TO WORK...



"SWITCHED ON THE IGNITION..."



"...HIS LAST CONSCIOUS ACT!"



THE POLICE COULD TURN UP NO MOTIVATION FOR HIS MURDER-- NO PERSONAL ENEMIES-- NO TIES WITH THE UNDERWORLD-- NOTHING!

BUT WHY IS YOUR LIFE IN DANGER NOW, MARLA?



SOMETHING ABOUT THIS CASE TOUCHED ME-- I WANTED TO HELP-- SO I DID A LITTLE LEG- WORK ON MY OWN!

DUG UP THIS OBSCURE ITEM WHICH SEEMS TO HAVE NO CONNECTION-- BUT...

"NOWA DEMOLITION CO. WINS URBAN-BLIGHT RAZING CONTRACT."





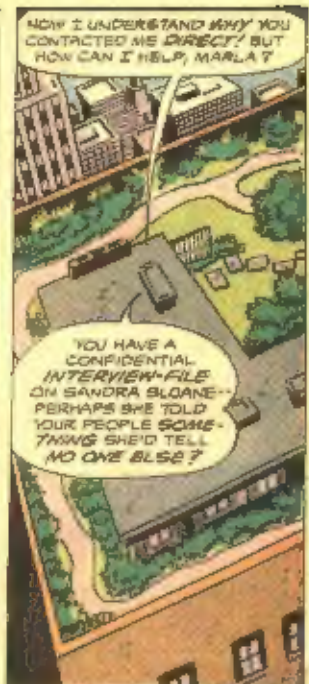
AND YOU FIGURED-- "DEMOLITION" ADDS UP TO "BOMB-BLAST" OF A CAR?

I PLAYED A LONG-SHOT--HUNTED IN MY FOLLOW-UP ARTICLE THAT "BIDDERS FOR A CERTAIN CITY-CONTRACT" MIGHT HAVE REASON TO WANT TOM SLOANE RAZED!



IT PAID OFF-- WITH AN ANONYMOUS THREATENING PHONE-CALL! "LAY OFF... OR ELSE!"

I'VE BEEN AFRAID TO LIFT A RECEIVER OFF THE HOOK SINCE-- FEARING IT MAY BE BOOBY-TRAPPED LIKE SLOANE'S IGNITION!



NOW I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU CONTACTED ME DIRECT! BUT HOW CAN I HELP, MARLA?

YOU HAVE A CONFIDENTIAL INTERVIEW-FILE ON SANDRA SLOANE-- PERHAPS SHE TOLD YOUR PEOPLE SOMETHING SHE'D TELL NO ONE ELSE?



SOME INADVERTENT CLUE ABOUT HER BROTHER'S ASSOCIATES--ACTIVITIES-- ANYTHING!

LET'S CHECK THE FILES!

FILES



HERE'S HER FOLDER--

WHAT--? EMPTY EXCEPT FOR THIS NOTE!



SOMEBODY-- SECOND-GUESSED YOU, MARLA!

THIS IS BEYOND US NOW-- IT'S A JOB FOR BATMAN! GET BACK HOME AND STAY THERE-- TILL HE CONTACTS YOU!





MARLA PLAYED A LONG SHOT--AND BROUGHT HOME A WINNER!

HER BLIND STAB GOT TO SOMEONE--ENOUGH TO SMOKE HIM OUT OF HIDING...



SOMETHING THE MURDER VICTIM'S SISTER SAID IN HER AD-INTERVIEW...

... WAS POTENT ENOUGH TO MAKE HIM STEAL HER FILE! SO, FIRST THING ON BATMAN'S AGENDA...



... IS TO RE-INTERVIEW SANDRA SLOANE-- PERSONALLY! BEFORE THAT...

BATMAN HERB, COMMISSIONER GORDON! CAN YOU GIVE ME THE NAMES OF THE OTHER FIRMS WHO BID ON THE URBAN-BLIGHT RAZING-CONTRACT-- BESIDES THE WINNER, NOVA DEMOLITION CO?



TWO OTHERS, YOU SAY? THANKS!

SO WE'VE GOT THREE POSSIBLE SUSPECTS! BUT WHICH WANTED TOM SLOANE "RAZED"-- THE WINNER OR THE LOSERS?



"THAT NIGHT I PAID A VISIT TO A MOURNING SISTER-- AS BATMAN..."

I MUST TALK TO YOU, MISS SLOANE!

GO AWAY, BATMAN! I'VE ALREADY TOLD ALL I INTEND TO TELL-- TO ANYBODY!



IF I DON'T TALK  
TO YOU NOW,  
SOMEONE  
ELSE MIGHT...  
LATER!

SANDRA! DO YOU  
WANT YOUR BROTHER'S  
DEATH TO GO  
UNPUNISHED?



I--I KNOW NOTHING  
THAT COULD LEAD TO  
HIS--MURDERER!

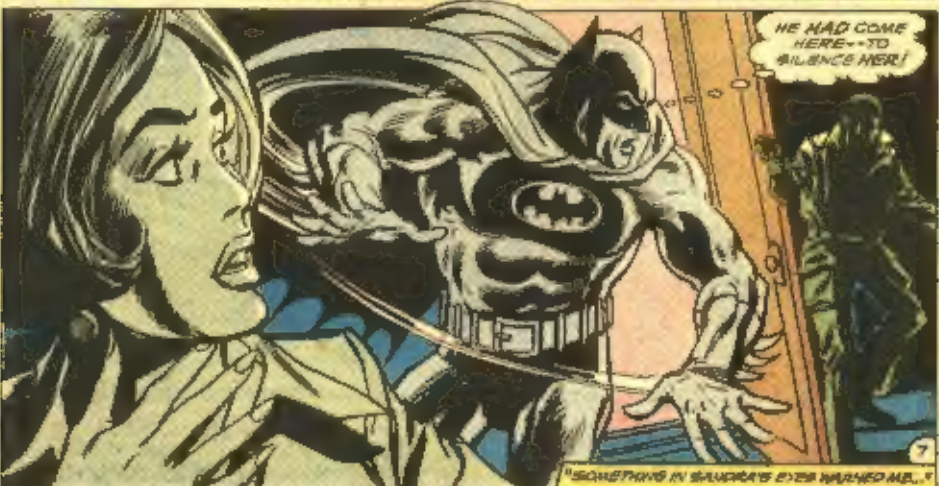
OPEN UP--  
OR I'LL--



"I  
KNEW  
SHE KNEW  
SOMETHING...  
THAT'S WHY WAS  
HER INTERVIEW--  
CARD STOLEN?  
SUDDENLY IT  
CAME ON  
ME... WAS I  
TOO LATE?"

KA-RA-ASH!

OH-HI!



HE HAD COME  
HERE--TO  
SILENCE HER!

"SOMETHING IN SANDRA'S EYES WARNED ME..."



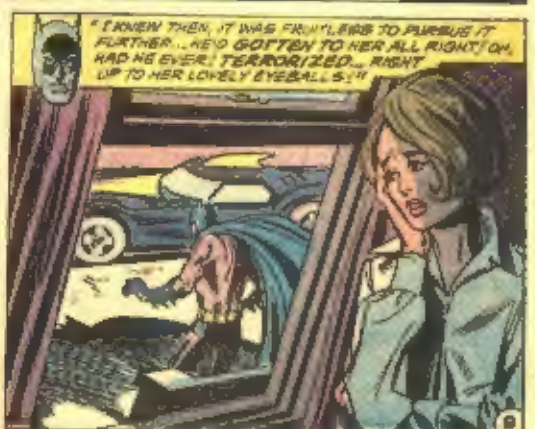


**CAN  
YOU  
BELIEVE  
?**



**WONDER  
WOMAN  
and  
JERRY  
LEWIS--  
TOGETHER!**

ON SALE JAN. 20

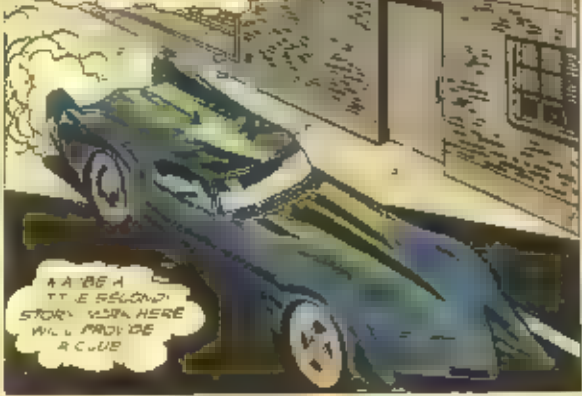




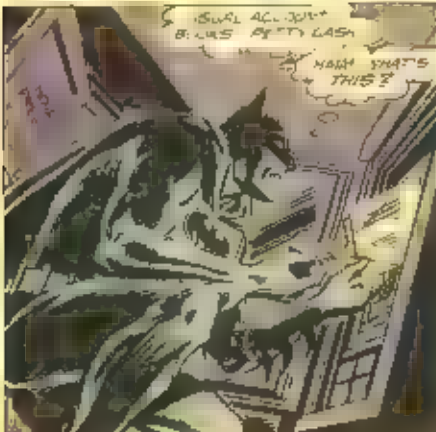
"BUT HAVE THREE 'POSSIBLES' TO  
TRACK DOWN NUMBER ONE THE  
NOVA DEMOLITION CO. WHO WON  
HE DEAL? NO DEMOLITION PLUN  
K TH THE LOWEST BID. WOULD  
THEY HAVE KNOWN HE CHAIRTAIN  
FIGURES BEFOREHAND?



ONLY IF THEY HAD INSIDE  
DOPE FROM IDA'S CLANET  
THEN WHY KILL HIM?



IT A BE A  
TT E SECOND  
STORY WORK HERE  
WILL PROVIDE  
A CLUE



"SWEAL ALL DAY"  
BURNS FEET LASH  
HAIN THAT'S  
THIS?



VIETNAM- WAR  
DISCHARGE PAPERS  
FOR ZACHARY  
NOVA 20 5T  
CLASS EN GNEER  
BATTALION  
DEMOLITION!

NOVA PRESIDENT  
OF THIS COMPANY A  
FORMER ARMY  
DEMOLITION EXPERT  
IF ANYONE KNEW  
THE TRICKS OF THE  
ROBBY-TRAP TRADE



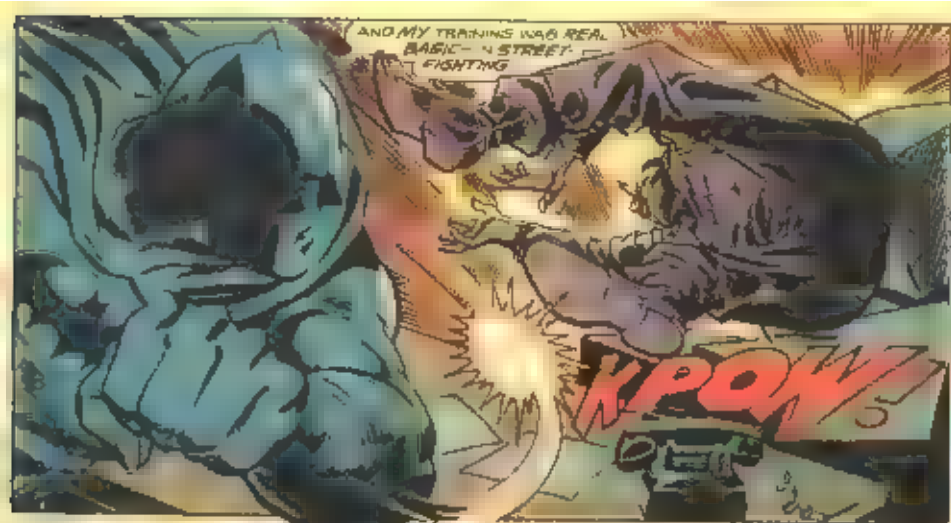
I WOULD EH  
BATMAN?

TCHOK!

"FOR A SPLIT SECOND, I SAW ALL SORTS  
OF FANCY FIREWORKS, PINWHEELS  
ROMAN CANDLES... BUT I GRAPPL-ED







SO IT'S A STAND-OFF-- UNLESS  
YOU WANT YOUR FAMILY  
COLLECTING YOUR GI  
INSURANCE

I JUST  
DON'T  
LIKE BEING  
IN THE  
RECEIVING  
END BATMAN--  
SO LAY  
OFF!

LAY OFF--? THAT  
SOUNDS FAMILIAR

YOU JUST LIKE  
DIVING IT OUT  
EM, NOVA? EVER  
HEARD OF A JUY WHO  
TOOK IT-- LIKE TOM  
SLOANE?

NEVER HEARD OF NOTHING!  
I DO-- SO POKING MY  
SNOOZE IN THINGS THAT  
DON'T CONCERN ME  
LIKE YOU DO

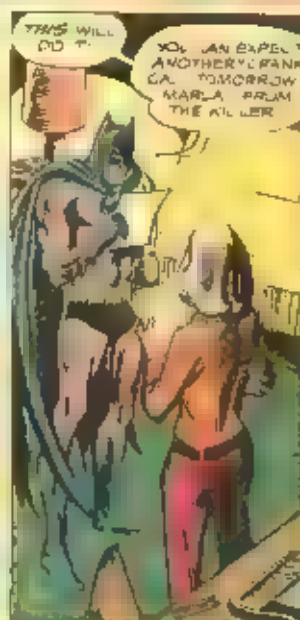
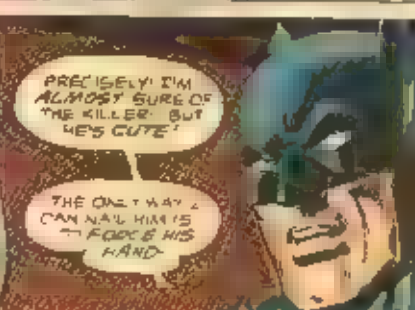
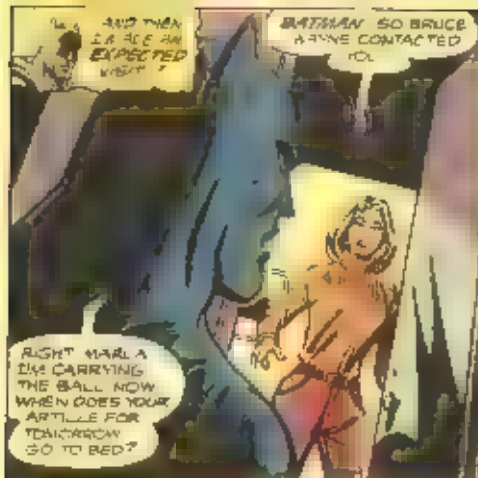
WHICH IS WHY I GOT  
UP-TIGHT IN THE FIRST  
PLACE YOU "BREAKING  
AND ENTERING"

I RUN A LEGIT  
BUSINESS, GOT  
HALF A MIND TO  
CALL THE  
POLICE

BUT YOU WOULDN'T--  
WOULD YOU, NOVA?

YEAH? NOT BECAUSE  
I GOT ANYTHING TO HIDE,  
HEAR? JUST BECAUSE  
YOU GOT A GOOD REP--  
HATE TO SPOIL  
IT FOR YOU



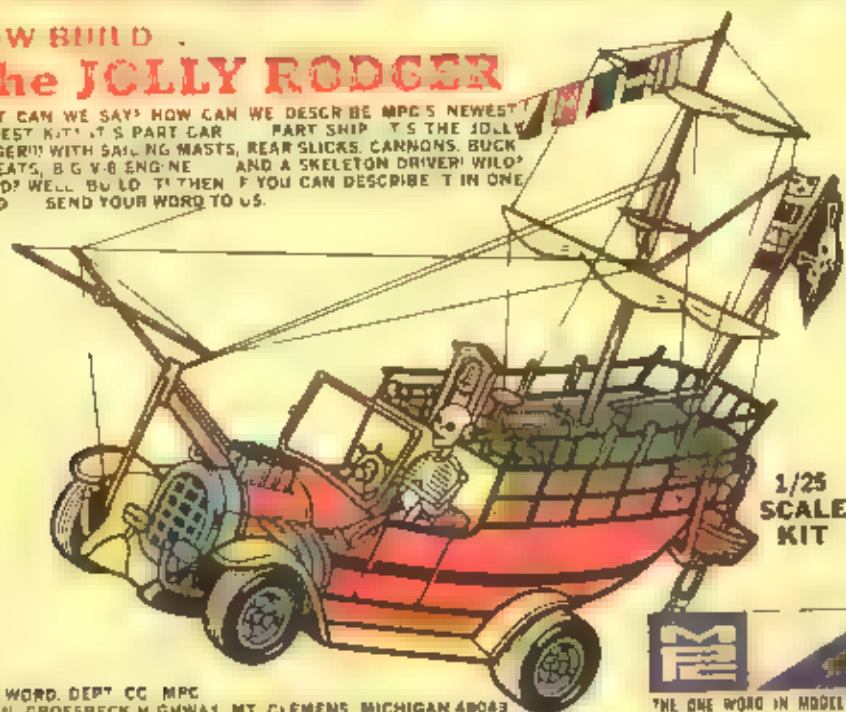




NOW BUILD

## The JOLLY RODGER

WHAT CAN WE SAY? HOW CAN WE DESCRIBE MPC'S NEWEST WILDEST KIT? IT'S PART CAR PART SHIP IT'S THE JOLLY RODGER!!! WITH SAILING MASTS, REAR SLICKS, CANNONS, BUCKLE SEATS, BIG V-8 ENGINE AND A SKELETON DRIVER! WILD? WEIRD? WELL BUILD IT THEN IF YOU CAN DESCRIBE IT IN ONE WORD SEND YOUR WORD TO US.



1/25  
SCALE  
KIT

ONE WORD, DEPT CC MPC  
225 N GROESBECK HIGHWAY MT CLEMENS MICHIGAN 48043



THE ONE WORD IN MODEL KITS



# LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE 5-358

Dear Editor

After reading "Angel Or Devil" in *Batman* #21b I just had to put in my two cents worth, or rather my two "Pennyworths."

On its merits as a detective story alone, "Angel" rates a very good to excellent. To regular *Batman* readers, however, it has a much greater significance. In 74 pages, would venture to say more has been added to Alfred's character than 26 years of stories so much in fact that I was prompted to reread its origin story in *Batman* #1b, exactly 200 issues ago. In that story Alfred mentioned that he was a former actor and amateur detective. Frank Robbins did an excellent job of incorporating these elements into this issue.

Perhaps the best way to describe this story is that it served as *leitmotif* all involved. Thus we have Dick Grayson's mature appreciation of Shakespeare mixed with his boyish crush on Daphne. Then there is Daphne herself torn between love of her father and her uncle Alfred. We also have *Batman's* very human dilemma as he runs into one dead end after another trying to find out what she is up to.

It is Alfred, however, who is humanized the most from his concern that he has not been notified if his brother's coming to his suspicion over Daphne's candle droppings to the realization of his suspicion to his venturesome attempt to save his brother Wilfred, and to the final forgiving of Daphne. Alfred takes one new dimension after another. Gone is the butler who should be seen and not heard. In his place we have a proud gentleman with an equally proud brother and niece. We have a servant and friend of *Batman* who after 26-plus years of service has understandably absorbed some of his heroic quality. We have a man who puts loyalty to Bruce Wayne above his own life. And finally we have a warm-hearted person who can forgive as well as condemn.

PETER G. HAAG Trenton, NJ

The role enacted by Alfred in "Angel Or Devil" was enthusiastically applauded by our readers. And there was quite a bit from the audience about the revelation of the good butler's Pennyworth surname. But more about this after a pause for a couple of more letters. — Editor

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Dear Editor

At last! AT LAST! After all these years, Alfred does have a last name! But PENNYWORTH. "Who thought up that name... Spidey Agent?"

CHARLES CRUZ Bronx, N.Y.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Editor

From first page to last *Batman* #21b was an issue well worth thirty minutes of my time. And it's Frank Robbins naturally who did it all. Characterizations plays a big part in Frank's stuff and it was sure there.

Everyone wanted an in-depth review of Alfred's family and background. We're certainly on the right road. And a big name for him has been firmly established. One reader once revealed that an old story listed Alfred's last name as Seagle. I'm inclined to agree with you that Pennyworth is a bit more pleasing to the ear and certainly more dignified.

GARY SKINNER Columbus, Ohio

Our research through the *Batman* files could uncover no definitive last name for Alfred. And since "Angel Or Devil" demanded it, we were inspired to adopt the Alfred Pennyworth name created by Whitman Edmuth for the *Batman* syndicate strip. Long-time *EN* fans will recall Whit as our former editor-in-chief.

and if Pennyworth is good enough for him... Editor!

Dear Editor

Frank Robbins turned out an excellent dramatic story in the November *Human*. Being an English major in college, I was delighted to see the story dealing with Romeo and Juliet and Shakespearean actors. The most dramatic scene in the story I felt was the confrontation between Alfred and Daphne in Act II. Firmly proud and personal loyalty were manifest in Alfred's brave stance for Bruce Wayne and Daphne's nearly blind determination to obtain the Shakespeare folio in order to save her father.

Most significant was the insight we got into Alfred's British heritage and his family's foolish trait. We saw more of his own personality and actions as an individual. As a matter of fact, what made the story so good was that Alfred, as well as *Batman*, Dick Grayson and Daphne were portrayed as human beings. We saw them not as superhuman characters but as people.

The artwork of Nisick and Giordano complemented the story beautifully. One could see the "British in Alfred: the beauty and confusion in Daphne, a curious mood in *Batman*, the casual humor of Bruce Wayne and Dick Grayson. The dramatic interpretation of Robbins' story was as integrated as if that "Angel Or Devil" truly becomes what the comic magazine business is and should be all about: the creative combination of art and story line to form a new type of art worthy of its own class. It is why you top your competitors and have my vote of confidence because you are striving to make comic magazines much, much more than just trivial action adventures.

M.D. KELLY Oak Harbor, Wash.

From a vote of confidence we switch to one of confidence. Editor

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Editor

What a let-down. After last issue's "I'll Be Master" I thought surely you'd keep up the trend, but you didn't. "Angel Or Devil" was, indeed, a let-down! Not only did it not have the mystery of the previous story but it also lacked the suspense and intrigue. To put it bluntly it just didn't keep me interested.

MIKE MALLORY Bagger's End

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Editor

I have written you many letters before, some complimentary and some not. When I write about "Angel Or Devil" I have to be complimentary. The story was fascinating and well written.

The idea of Dick Grayson having a cold really pleased me. For me, because I'm always catching summer, winter, spring and fall colds, and also because it made Dick so much more human.

One part of the story gave me a substantial amount of horror though. Dick, while under the influence of the intoxicating mixture of chicken soup and aspirin, slowly but steadily opened the book of Shakespeare. I feared the worst that the secret of the *Batman* would be revealed. My sigh of relief was loud and long when Dick seemed not to be triggered at all by his normal capacity and saved the day at the end. This scene was an example of the utmost perfection and literary and artistic quality of the entire story.

ALICE IRMA HIRMAN Richmond Hill, N.Y.

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Address communications to: LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE, National Periodical Publications, 400 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022

FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS?  
WHERE WOULD I GET THAT  
AMOUNT?

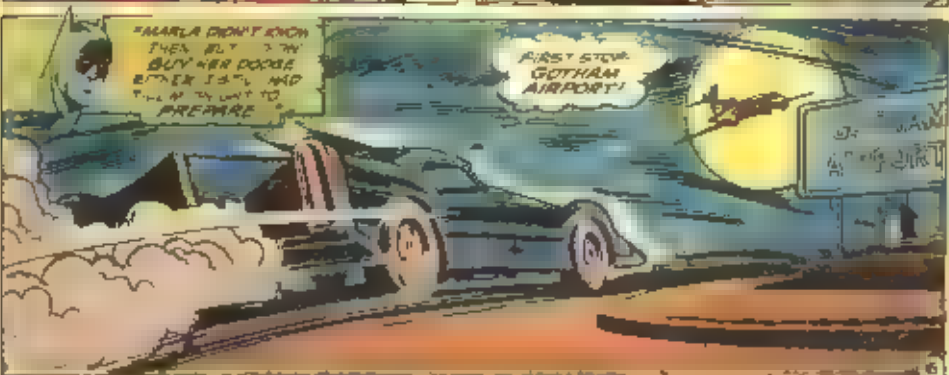
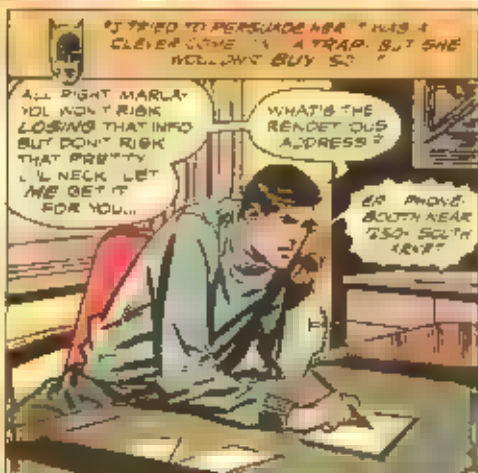
"TRY YOUR BEST FOR  
BARRY. YOU BOTH HAVE  
A BIG REP TO LOSE IF  
YOU DON'T SAY 'YES'.  
YOUR DEBTED  
READERS  
THANK YOU."

"BRING IT TO THE PHONE BOOTH  
NEAR 1250 NORTH MARKET  
AT 11 NIGHT.  
I'LL CONTACT  
YOU THERE."

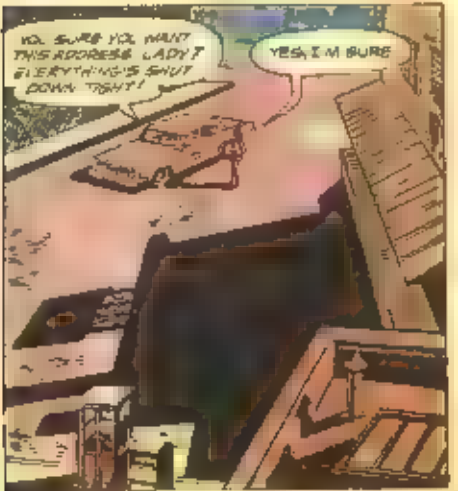
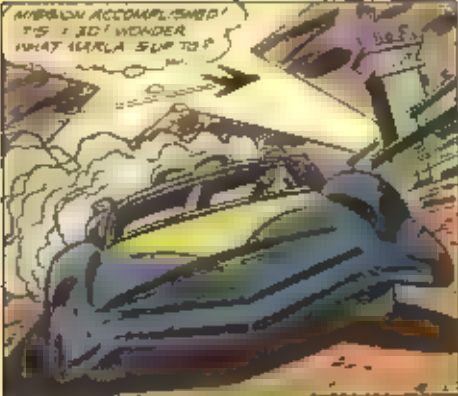
"FOR MY  
CALL TO  
BATMAN!"

"YES,  
MARLA. HE  
CALLED?"

"YES. AND NO,  
BATMAN. THAT IS  
THIS GUY'S NAME.  
DIFFERENT.  
NOT LIKE MY  
FIRST  
CALLERS."









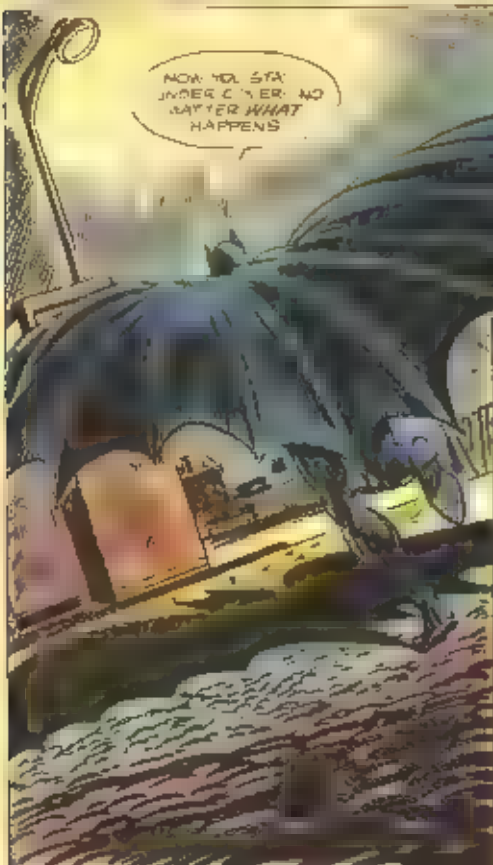
B-BATMAN?  
B: - NOW?!

YOU GAVE ME THE WRONG  
ADDRESS, NARLA. A  
STREET NUA BBA THAT  
DOESN'T EXIST.

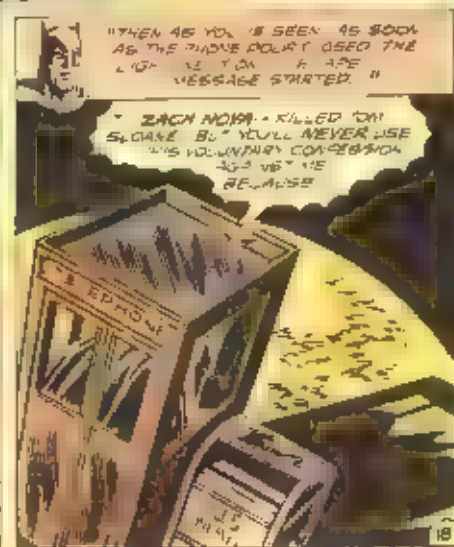


50 FEET FROM 1250 SOUTH  
MARKET, I WENT TO  
750 NORTH.

OH



NOW YOU STA  
UNDER CATER. NO  
MATTER WHAT  
HAPPENS



"THEN AS YOU IS SEEN AS SOON  
AS THE PHONE RINGS, USED THE  
LIGHT TO YOU. A LIFE  
MESSAGE STARTED."

"ZACH NOVA - KILLED YOU  
SLAKE. BUT YOU'LL NEVER USE  
THIS VOLUNTARY CONFESSION  
300 VS 100  
RELEASE"









... WAS PLANNED & I'VE  
 HIS CONFESS IN THIS HQ  
 BUT I DON' HE HE'S OFF  
 MARLA AND AS NOVA HAINLY  
 TRIED TO DESTROY THE  
 NOVAING, TELL TALE. I SEEM  
 BODDED. PRICE... I MOVED OUT!!

YOU'RE ONLY  
 A TAPE--YOU  
 CAN'T  
 EXIST  
 ANYMORE...

I-TOLD-NOVA  
 NOVA-NOVA  
 KILLED. KILLED.

WHAH!

NOVA-NOVA  
 KILLED  
 M.DANE

YOU'RE ALIVE!  
 IT DOESN'T SEEM  
 POSSIBLE.

ZACH-NOVA  
 NOVA-NOVA...

KILLED-KILLED

DO I FEEL LIKE A  
 GHOST? UM-UM  
 MARLA. NO MORE  
 IMPOSSIBLE THAN  
 THAT THE TAPE  
 RECORDED VOICE  
 OF NOVA STILL  
 LIVES! COME--  
 LET ME  
 SHOW YOU

Dear Editor:

By the time you, the editor, get this, the "big change" in the *Batman* strip that's been heralded for quite some time will have been put into effect. My reason for offering the following speculations (on what the change will *not* be) for print is that I feel it will be worthwhile to see a remembrance of what is about to become the "old" *Batman* among constant reminders of the "changed" *Batman*.

By now, Editor Schwartz has no doubt become the victim of unkind remarks from organized fandom such as, "Since Schwartz is the editor, *Batman* readers have come to expect a change in format of the strip every five years—and they're getting one!" The motivation for this change—whatever it may be—is doubtlessly justified, and it's not up to us to question it. One thing we can be sure of is that the change will not bring stories out of the usual Schwartz-edited style.

The Schwartz method of putting together a comic never underestimates the sophistication of that comic's readership. With it, the assumption that the comic must—and will—appeal to the more intellectual and more mature reader is second-nature. You, Mr. Schwartz, will not forget that it is this readership that will decide the fate of the latest version of *Batman*.

To appeal to your comic-reader "intelligence," you have always strived to present *realism* in your publications. Of course, total realism in a comic magazine of the super-hero genre is impossible. It can only be realism within the context of the format of the strip or magazine itself. That is, the concept of realism in super-hero comic magazines predisposes that it will be a *limited* realism, restricted to as realistic dialogue and realistic characterizations as possible, and always taking into consideration the strange circumstances of super-heroism. Super-hero comic magazine fiction, like its parent fiction forms, *science fiction* and *mystery fiction*, requires, to a degree, a *suspension of disbelief*. Your success with the mature reader has been the result of giving him mature story-lines in which as much realism as can be permitted by circumstance is believably incorporated into the story for story-lines which do not, on the other hand, use the "suspension of disbelief" requirement as a cop-out.

With that in mind, I feel that Scott Gibson's contentions (*Batman's* Hot-Line, issue #392) about *Batman's* "change" not being patterned after Diana (Wonder Woman) Prince's can be given a bit of validity by some further contentions and assumptions of my own. *Batman* will not give up his crime-fighting identity. The more obvious reasons are: (1) *Green Arrow's* already trying with that notion, and there are far too many similarities between the two characters as it is; (2) to reject *Batman*. Bruce Wayne would need sufficient motivation, none of which has been provided by his present characterization. Of course, it could be accomplished out of the blue with a sensational story-line like Bruce Wayne kills someone as *Batman*—to give-up-that-identity-forever, but I know you won't, even though your present writers are very inclined to sensational stories, because it would be *off* sensationalism and *no* realism, and the biggest disappointment of the year.

A less obvious reason is that *Wonder Woman* had been allowed to become TOO fantastic (over-emphasis on the necessity for "suspension of disbelief"). The refurbished *WW* is an attempt to get closer to the type of realism I've mentioned. You had to require chucking everything Charles Moulton and H.G.

Peter had conceived out the window. By contrast, *Batman* has been bathed in comic-mag realism for years and is by no means stretching the reader's credulity. And the current consciousness of the "Golden Age" *Batman* and regular use of almost all the original characters (with the exception of perhaps Vicki Vale) has suggested that you are not about to reject in a sudden gesture everything that Bob Kane has established about his creation (s).

That the change won't concern another change-of-costume or that it won't involve the dropping of the Bruce Wayne identity is further removed from the realm of possibility. It just may be. In any event, I'm sure characters won't start (a) dying, (b) getting married, or (c) getting born. For *Batman* and *Robin* have been going on the same way for thirty years, and have proven themselves NOT to be transitional characters. In my opinion, I think I have exhausted almost every possibility for change there is, so... you'll REALLY have to surprise me!

—MARTIN PASKO, Clifton, N.J.

(Well, the change in *Batman* is here... or rather, under way... and where it will continue to lead is more just for your guessing-mill. To completely surprise *Batmanians* like you will take some doing... if it's not going to be our up-doing!—Editor)

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Dear Editor:

I, for one, am getting fed up with readers who continually write in pleading for realism in *Batman*. "Why can't we use *Batman's* eyes?" they wail. "Why do the villains use absurd death-traps on *Batman* instead of just shooting him?" "Why does *Robin* make jokes while he's fighting?" These questions are ridiculous. *Batman* appears in comic magazines! Remember? How much realism can be put into such an escapist form of fiction without it getting insane? As far as I can remember, comic magazines have been published only for sheer entertainment. They have been the best cheap form of fun for ages. For merely 15¢ a person can buy *Batman* and get away from the rest of the world.

*Batman* is to comics readers today what "The Perils of Pauline" were to moviegoers a half century ago. In the film, poor, plucked *Pauline* was put through a procession of harrowing hazards. And it was a box office smash hit. What would have happened if *Pauline* had been put into "The Perils of Pauline"? The fun would be gone! This same type of fun is still needed today, and *Batman* provides a healthy dose of it.

The only realism in *Batman* currently is that he is getting more and more like a *real* person. However, you must bear in mind that he is still doing unrealistic things like running around in a mask-and-cape while POWING and ZAPPING costumed criminals. But this is the way it should be. Comic magazine writers and artists should more or less thumb their noses at realism and just produce a well-done, thrilling publication like *Batman*. *Batman*, as a comic magazine feature, has always consisted of rather stereotyped, black-and-white characters, with a good-sized shot of mystery and melodrama. As long as it remains this, I will be a loyal and dedicated fan.

—STEVE DEERY, Alma, Mich.

(In some of our more recent *Batman* stories there's been more stress on Bruce Wayne, the real man, than on *Batman*, the un-real hero. Reader comments are invited on the advisability of continuing along this line.—Editor)





NOVA'S VOICE--WHICH I  
COPIED FROM HIS ORIGINAL  
PLAYBACK!

USING THIS INDESTRUCTIBLE--  
IN-FLIGHT AIRLINER TAPE-  
RECORDER! DESIGNED  
TO WITHSTAND ANY  
BLAST OR EXPLOSIVE  
IMPACT--

...IN ONE SECOND  
THIS TAPE WILL--  
SELF-DESTRUCT--  
AND SO WILL...

...WHICH I SNIJGLED INTO THE BOOTH,  
HIDDEN IN A DUMMY OF MYSELF! I  
HAD CONCEALED IT UNDER MY CAPE AS  
I CROSSED THE SQUARE... KNOWING  
NOVA WOULD BE WATCHING!

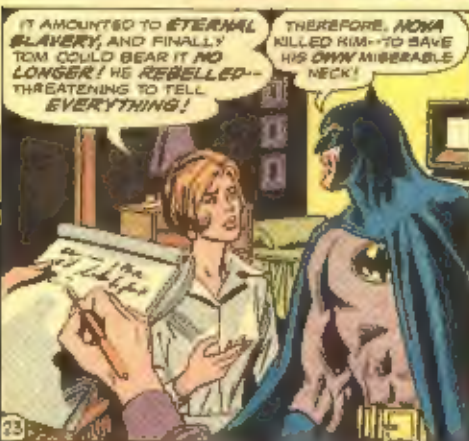
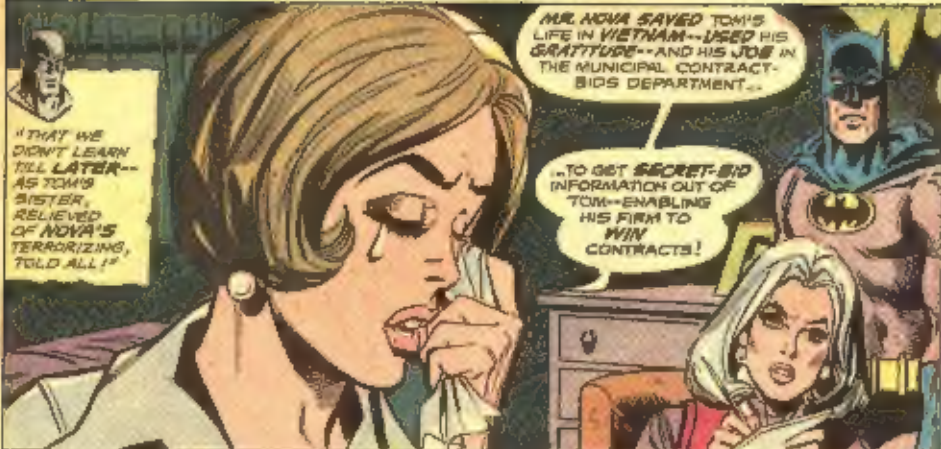
"THEN--CLOSING THE BOOTH BEHIND MY  
DUMMY, TRIGGERING NOVA'S INFERNAL  
MECHANISM, I DARTED, UNSEEN,  
FOR COVER!"



I KNEW HE COULDN'T RESIST  
STAYING TO INSPECT HIS FINAL  
TRIUMPH, TO GLOAT OVER A  
CONFESSION THAT WOULD  
NEVER BE HEARD  
AGAIN...

... BUT HIS OWN  
EGO BETRAYED  
HIM!

BUT WHY DID HE  
KILL TOM RULANE?



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750	678
103,763	147,638
244	345
104,428	140,574
106,873	134,076
113,956	400,000

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. **BERNARD KASH-DAN**, Business Manager

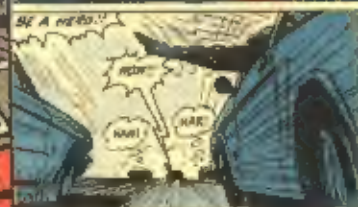


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